

THE POPULAR AND LEADING STORE IN THE GREAT RETAIL CENTER!

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St. Louis Post-Dispatch

PUBLISHED BY THE DISPATCH PUBLISHING CO., JOSEPH FULTON, President.

[Entered at the Post-Office at St. Louis, Mo., as second-class mail matter.]

TERMS OF THE DAILY.
One year, postage paid, every afternoon and Sunday morning, \$10.00
Six months, postage paid, 5.00
Three months, postage paid, 3.00
By the week (delivered by carrier), 50c
Sunday Edition, by mail, per year, 2.00
Subscribers who fail to receive their paper regularly will confer a favor upon us by reporting the same to this office by postal card.

THE WEEKLY.
One year, postage paid, \$1.00
Six months, postage paid, .60
All business or news letters or telegrams should be addressed
POST-DISPATCH,
515 and 517 Market street.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS.
Editorial Rooms.....001
Business Office.....008
London Office, 35 Cockspur Street, Charing Cross.

HIGH-WATER MARK, 54,420.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1887.

AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

OLYMPIA—Mansfield in "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," GRAND-BARTMAN.
PROFESSOR VIKTOR VIKTOR in "Vaquero,"
FOUR—The "Lions of London."
STANDARD—Bobby & Woods' Big Show.
CARNOT—Novelty Co.
MATINEES TO-MORROW.
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The indications for twenty-four hours commencing at 3 p. m. to-day for Missouri are: Colder, fair weather; fresh to brisk northwesterly winds, followed during Thursday by light to fresh variable winds and rising temperature.

MR. BLAINE'S recent assault on the platform of his party has made some of his friends uneasy.

Why should the Republicans hesitate about nominating EVARTS and EDMUNDS on a cold-wave platform?

SENATOR CHANDLER should not miss his present opportunity to deliver a tear-compelling eulogy on the Tallapoosa.

The Solid Northwest threatens to surrender its solidity next year. When that happens, perhaps the Solid South will follow suit.

It is announced that HIGGINS is about to go, and it is hoped that he will not stand on the order of his going. Better late than never.

GAIL HAMILTON has sailed for Europe. This indicates that the European end of the Blaine boom is going to be put into good fighting trim.

CLINTON and Henry County have both "gone dry." Considering the approach of Christmas, this is quite a decided triumph for Prohibition.

The Lincoln boom, which has been judiciously kept in the background for some time, should not be prejudiced by Judge TOURNESE's indorsement.

SENATOR CULLOM's postal telegraph bill has several claims to public favor. It is an anti-monopoly bill and there will be no water in the telegraph stock.

CLEVELAND's message has now been before the country a whole week and thus far no manufacturer has been ruined by it. On the contrary the country is never more flourishing.

SENATOR CHANDLER will not realize his own effectiveness as a boomering till he gets the election returns in 1888, and notes the increased Democratic majorities in Mississippi, Louisiana, South Carolina and Florida.

For a bright and brief interval the Republican Senators are receiving RINDLERBERGER with effusive familiarity, but the festive ringer of the chestnut bell of course sees through this species of coquetry and accepts it at its true value.

The Randall Club of Pittsburg, by a unanimous vote, has passed resolutions heartily indorsing the President's message. This is discouraging to the ranters who have raised the false cry of free trade, and who have been relying on the friends of Mr. RANDALL to create a schism in the Democratic party.

The prophets of evil who are now filling the papers with dire forebodings of disaster as the result of Democratic tariff reform should remember that they used these same prophecies once before to apply to the results of a Democratic Administration. The proverb says that prophets of this kind should have long memories.

If the Government is going into the telegraph business as a part of the postal service there is no reason why it should not apply the same principle of rates in both cases. The uniform rate for letters, regardless of the distance they are carried, has been found to work well, and there is no reason why it should not do as well for telegrams.

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is backed by an immense contingent of the Republican party. Hence there is nothing surprising about the discomfiture of the great editors who started out to disable Brother MEXICUS in two rounds. They are not as good-looking as they were a few days ago, but they know more about revenue reform.

A bread tax is universally regarded as an atrociously cruel tax upon the poorest of mankind. What, then, can be said of a tax on the cheaper potato, by which many who are too poor to get bread are annually saved from starvation? Ordinarily potatoes are so cheap, abundant and good in this country that imported potatoes can hardly be given away, and our ridiculous tariff of 15 cents a bushel on potatoes yields neither revenue to the Government nor protection to the potato grower. But now, when our Treasury is bursting with a cumbersome surplus of the proceeds of unnecessary taxation, and when crop failures have raised the price of food, and a protracted drouth has given us a potato crop especially inferior in quantity and quality, we are actually collecting a tax of 15 cents a bushel on potatoes imported from abroad!

METROPOLITAN PRESS.

What the Editors of the New York Journals Are Saying This Morning.

By Telegram to the Post-Dispatch.
New York, December 14.—THE WORLD says: "If the Senate shall see fit to order an inquiry into the management of the civil service, as proposed in Mr. Hale's resolution, it should certainly extend the investigation. Let the committee find out why the Republicans filled every nook and cranny of the public service with their own partisan agents in the interval between the passage of the reform act and its going into effect. Let it ascertain if it was not the settled policy of every Republican Administration down to the last to bestow the offices as rewards for party service and to encourage partisan activity by the incumbents. Let the smelling committee find, if it can, one State under Republican control where the spoils system is not rigorously applied. Having thus discovered the beams in Republican eyes, perhaps the committee can see more clearly how to pluck the mote out of the eye of the Democrats."

THE TIMES says: "One of the most curious incidents in the working of the civil service system of the United States is the fact that the convention in Washington of the third and fourth classes of the civil service, two hundred and fifty of these gentlemen have come together from all parts of the country organized by the Republican party, and have deliberated and prepared to bring their influence to bear upon Congress to secure legislation. Their chief object is to secure that they are pleased to call themselves 'the civil service,' and they may be reasonably certain that none of them are working hard to get their salaries reduced to a level lower than they now touch. The 'civil service' will undoubtedly result in a net loss to all around it. The law is now in force simply on the basis of capacity, the convention would not have so grotesque a character, but being as they are appointed largely for purely partisan reasons the convention cannot be regarded as a very proper or decent thing to permit. Yet this is a view of the matter which is hardly likely to occur to the average Congressman."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

READER.—The year 1888 is a leap year.
SUBSCRIBER.—There is no premium on a 50-cent piece of 1883.
A SUBSCRIBER—J. C. Hendrix is the Post-Dispatch's answer to your inquiry.

IGNORANCE.—"Children's Kirmess" is the correct spelling and pluralization.
M. J. B.—The proper spelling of the traditional "d" of a star is "dix."

AN entertainment will be given this evening by the Dramatic Club of St. Michael's Sodality of Social Aid, at the Casino.

A SUBSCRIBER.—A silver 50-cent piece of 1884 is not a premium, neither is a 50-cent greenback the same year.

CONSTANT READER.—England's motto is "Dieu et mon droit," which, being translated, means "God and my right."

DAILY READER.—You will write to the Clipper, New York City, you will be furnished with a list of trapeze performers.

A SUBSCRIBER.—The construction of the Bridge and Tunnel was begun in 1886 and completed in 1887. The cost, in cash, was about \$7,000,000.

W. L. C.—The Hon. Mr. Belmont, does business at the number 1000 Broadway, New York. He is not in the Chicago directory.

JUDGES.—The barkeeper has no more right to the 1000 than the bartender has to the 1000. The bartender has no more right to the 1000 than the barkeeper has to the 1000.

N. G.—In playing four-handed snooker, when your partner leads trump it is not necessary for you to play your trump. You may lead your trump if you like, but it is not necessary.

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MUST SANTA CLAUS GO?

THE LITTLE FOLK OF ST. LOUIS WILL NOT SEE THEIR SAINT BANISHED.

Some Very Interesting Letters From Children Have Reached the Post-Dispatch. They Want Santa Claus to Be Sure to Call Christmas Eve With Lots of Pretty Presents.

Poor old Santa Claus! The world is becoming so practical and hard-sensé that some of the old folks say they don't care to see the Christmas saint come around any more. They say that Santa Claus teaches the dear little children, whom he loves so warmly, to tell lies. What a mistake! Santa Claus is no promoter of falsehoods. Every boy and girl in the land knows that Santa Claus does not like lies, and will not have anything to do with children who tell lies.

Santa Claus remembers only the good children at Christmas time. Dying is bad and the children who tell lies are bad and Santa Claus has no use for them. Dr. John Hall, of the Santa Claus should be banished from the United States, is a good man and he probably means well, but he is not as close to Santa Claus now as the little folks are, and being old and foggy he has forgotten the sweet myth of his childhood years, and has no business at his time of life to poke his nose into the Christmas affairs of the children of this country. He is a good man, and he is a good citizen, but he is not a good Santa Claus. He is not a good Santa Claus because he is not a good man, and he is not a good citizen, and he is not a good Santa Claus.

Wouldn't it be mean and cruel to banish poor old Santa Claus from the United States? Wouldn't it be worse to banish him than to let him stay? Wouldn't it be better to let him stay and let the children know that he is still there, and that he is still the same old Santa Claus who has been with them for so many years? Wouldn't it be better to let him stay and let the children know that he is still there, and that he is still the same old Santa Claus who has been with them for so many years?

The Times says: "One of the most curious incidents in the working of the civil service system of the United States is the fact that the convention in Washington of the third and fourth classes of the civil service, two hundred and fifty of these gentlemen have come together from all parts of the country organized by the Republican party, and have deliberated and prepared to bring their influence to bear upon Congress to secure legislation. Their chief object is to secure that they are pleased to call themselves 'the civil service,' and they may be reasonably certain that none of them are working hard to get their salaries reduced to a level lower than they now touch. The 'civil service' will undoubtedly result in a net loss to all around it. The law is now in force simply on the basis of capacity, the convention would not have so grotesque a character, but being as they are appointed largely for purely partisan reasons the convention cannot be regarded as a very proper or decent thing to permit. Yet this is a view of the matter which is hardly likely to occur to the average Congressman."

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DULL KNIFE'S DEMAND.

AN INDIAN CHIEF'S DRAMATIC INTERVIEW WITH COL. LEWIS.

And the War Which Followed, Leading to the Death of Lewis and Fifty Others—Tells Some Hard Tales About the Indian Agents—How They Were Caught—Instances of Missionaries Who Are Also Backsliders—The Frequent Cause of Indian Raids and Outbreaks.

ELBERT HUNTER, who is now a resident of Denver, Colo., but who has for many years been engaged on the frontier as an army contractor, said in conversation with a Post-Dispatch reporter in the corridor of the Lincoln Hotel to-day: "I have spent fifteen years on the frontier and have been through into very close contact, not only with the army, but also with the Indian tribes, especially those of the Southwest. I have studied the Indian question in all its bearings, not theoretically but practically, and have come to the conclusion that the average man who goes to the frontier as an agent, or as a missionary, or as a trader, or as a settler, is as much misinformed by the western press as by the eastern philanthropists. The fact of the matter is that nearly every outbreak that has occurred during the last fifteen years has arisen from the policy of the Government in regarding the responsibility for the management of the Indians between the army and the Indian Bureau. While the Indians are on their reservation they are in exclusive charge of the Indian Agent, but when they are off the reservation they are in exclusive charge of the army. This is a very bad system, and it is the cause of nearly every outbreak that has occurred during the last fifteen years."

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